

Amendments to the Claims:

This "Listing of Claims" will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Twice Amended) A manually-powered scooter for transportation of and operation by a tall full-size human rider comprising:

a front wheel assembly having a rotatable front axle, a front wheel rim of about 20 inches in diameter, a front wheel suspension means disposed between said front axle and said front wheel rim, and a front wheel tire disposed around said front wheel rim for contacting the ground and steering the travel of the scooter;

a front wheel fork assembly comprised of a pair of front fork members disposed in side-by-side relation, said [front wheel fork forming a front fork assembly with said front wheel assembly, and said] front wheel assembly being disposed between said front fork members and [suspended by] rotatably mounted to said fork members by interconnection to said front axle, the mounting positioning the axle of the front wheel slightly more than about 10 inches from the ground;

a substantially straight and hollow head tube having an upper end and a lower end;

a T-shaped handle bar assembly, said handle bar assembly having a left handle and a right handle, and [having] a substantially straight vertical portion of suitable cross-section rotatably received in said head tube, said vertical portion extending upwardly from said upper end of said head tube and [extending] through said head tube such that said front wheel fork is immovably affixed to said vertical portion of the handle bar thus allowing operator control of the rotated position of the front wheel fork and front wheel assembly;

a substantially straight down tube descending diagonally from and rigidly affixed to said head tube and forming an angle of about 40 degrees with said head tube, said down tube having a lower end;

a rear wheel assembly having a rotatable rear [axis] axle, a rear wheel rim of about 20 inches in diameter, a rear wheel suspension means disposed between said rear axle and said rear wheel rim, and a rear wheel tire disposed around said rear wheel rim for contacting the ground and supporting the scooter;

a rear wheel fork assembly comprised of a pair of rear fork members disposed in side-by-side relation, said rear wheel assembly being disposed between and rotatably mounted to said rear fork members by interconnection to said rear axle, the mounting positioning the axle of the rear wheel slightly more than about 10 inches from the ground; and

a first and a second square deck support [members] member, said first and second deck support members being disposed substantially parallel to each other and rigidly interconnected to each other to form an integral horizontal rider deck, said rider deck having a front end and a rear end and disposed in substantially parallel relation to and about between 4 and 5 inches from the ground,

said rear fork members ascending upwardly and rearwardly away from said rear end of said rider deck at an angle of about 145 degrees, and

said rider deck front end being interconnected to said lower end of said down tube and forming an angle of about 110 degrees with said down tube to allow the front wheel fork assembly to descend at a close to vertical angle with and place the head tube well in front of the front end of the deck, the angular relationship enhancing the handling and maneuvering of the scooter at high and low speeds by reducing the tilt angle of the front wheel during turns and the likelihood during turning of the wheel that the taller rider's leg may come into contact with the turned front wheel [; and

a rear fork comprised of a pair of rear fork members disposed in side-by-side relation, said rear fork ascending from said rear end of said rider deck at an angle of about 145 degrees and forming a rear fork assembly with said

rear wheel assembly, said rear wheel assembly being disposed between said rear fork members and suspended by interconnection to said rear axle].

2. (Original) The scooter of claim 1 wherein said front wheel assembly and said rear wheel assembly is a bicycle-style high-pressure tire and wheel assembly.

3. (Original) The scooter of claim 1 wherein said head tube is constructed of chromalloy metal.

4. (Original) The scooter of claim 1 wherein said down tube is constructed of chromalloy metal.

5. (Original) The scooter of claim 1 wherein said deck support members are constructed of chromalloy metal.

6. (Original) The scooter of claim 1 wherein said rear fork assembly is constructed of chromalloy metal.

7. (Original) The scooter of claim 1 further comprising an accessory bracket mounted to said head tube.

8. (Original) The scooter of claim 7 wherein said accessory bracket is specifically adapted for receiving a removable basket accessory.

9. Canceled.

10. (Previously Presented) The scooter of claim 1, further comprising brake means for stopping the forward movement of the scooter, said brake means comprising:

a brake pad, said brake pad being positioned beneath said rear fork members for engagement with said rear wheel tire, and

actuating means for moving said brake pad from respective positions wherein said brake pad is engaged and disengaged with said rear wheel tire, said actuating means including a hand squeezable control disposed on said handle bar, and an actuator cable, said actuator cable extending from operable relation with said brake pad, under and along the rear fork assembly, under the rider deck, up the down tube, and into operable relation with said squeezable control.

11. (Currently Amended) A scooter for use by tall and heavy adult riders that propel the scooter with a leg, said scooter comprising:

a steerable front and a fixed rear wheel, each said wheel including an axle, a wheel rim, and a tire disposed around the wheel rim for contacting the ground, said axles being about 10 inches above the ground;

a frame, said frame including

a rider deck having forward and rearward [ends and disposed] end portions and extending between said wheels, said rider deck being spaced about 4 ½ to 5 ½ inches above and parallel to the ground when the scooter is in use,

a hollow head tube having an upper end and a lower end,

a down tube having an upper end rigidly affixed to said head tube between the upper and lower ends [thereof] of said head tube and a lower end rigidly affixed to the forward end portion of said rider deck, said head tube forming approximately a 40 ° angle with said down tube and said down tube forming approximately a 110 ° angle with the plane of the rider deck, the angular relation allowing the front steerable wheel to be safely operated in turns at higher speeds of travel by maintaining near vertical relation of the front wheel with respect to the ground and inhibit the propulson leg of the rider coming into contact with the turned front wheel, and

a rear fork assembly for [receiving] mounting the rear wheel, said rear fork assembly being rigidly affixed to the rearward end portion of said rider deck and comprised of two substantially parallel rear fork members ascending upwardly and rearwardly from the rearward end portion of said rider deck at an angle of about 145 ° to a horizontal plane including said rider deck;

means for steering the scooter, said means for steering comprising:

an elongated tube member having upper and lower ends and mounted for rotation relative to said hollow head tube,

a front fork assembly for [receiving] mounting the front wheel, said front fork assembly being fixedly connected to the lower end of said tube member, and

means for turning the tube member relative to said head tube.

12. (Previously Presented) The scooter of claim 11 wherein said rider deck comprises

two substantially parallel tube members, said parallel tube members extending generally horizontally and forming a continuation of a respective rear fork member, each said parallel tube member having a respective forward end fixedly attached to said down tube, and each said parallel tube member being formed of metal stock of square cross-section, and

a metal plate welded across the top of the two said parallel tube members.

13. (Previously Presented) The scooter of claim 12, further comprising:

means for reinforcing the frame, said means for reinforcing comprising:

an upper plate fixedly connecting the head tube to the down tube, said upper plate being proximate to the upper ends of the respective head and down tubes,

a lower plate fixedly connecting the lower end of the down tube to the forward end of the rider deck, and

a cross-plate fixedly connecting the rear fork members together wherein to maintain each in parallel relation with one another.

14. (Currently Amended) A manually powered scooter for transportation of and operation by tall and heavy operators, said scooter comprising

a [frame, a steerable] front wheel assembly, said front wheel assembly including a front fork, a front wheel, and an axle for mounting the wheel to the front fork,

a [fixed] rear wheel assembly, said rear wheel assembly including a rear fork, a rear wheel, and an axle for mounting the rear wheel to the rear fork, [and

means for steering the front wheel assembly to change direction of the scooter, said frame comprising]

a rider deck [mounted], said rider deck extending between said wheel assemblies and having a forward end and a rearward end, respectively, adjacent to the front and rear wheel assembly, [said rear wheel assembly including a rear fork assembly for mounting a rear wheel, the rear fork assembly being fixedly connected to the rearward end of the rider deck]

first means for fixedly connecting the rear fork to the rearward end of the rider deck in a manner that the rear wheel may rotate but not pivot relative to the deck, the rear fork projecting upwardly and forming an angle of approximately 145° with the rider deck to position the rear wheel well behind of the rider deck, and

second means for fixedly connecting the front fork to the forward end of the rider deck in a manner that the front wheel may rotate and be turned relative to the rider deck and the scooter steered, said second means including a hollow head tube, a down tube having an upper and lower end,

respectively, fixedly attached to said head tube and to said rider deck, and means for steering the front wheel to change direction of the scooter,

[a down tube fixedly connected to and] said down tube projecting upwardly and forwardly from the rider deck and forming an angle of approximately 110° with said rider deck,

[and a] said head tube [fixedly attached to said down tube and mounting said means for steering, said head tube] extending forwardly and downwardly and forming an angle of approximately 40° [to] with the down tube [wherein], and

said means for steering including a T-shaped handle bar journaled for rotation in said hollow head tube,

said second means operating to place the upper end of the head tube well in front of the rider deck and allow for the steerable front wheel to be safely operated in turns at higher speeds of travel by reducing the tilt angle of the front wheel during turning and maintaining a near-vertical position of the front wheel with respect to the ground and inhibit the propulsion leg of the rider coming into contact with the turned front wheel, and

wherein the wheels are about 20 inches diameter, the wheel axles are about 10 inches above the ground, and the rider deck is spaced between 4 ½ to 5 ½ inches above the ground.

15. (Currently Amended) The scooter of claim 14, further [comprising: a front fork assembly for mounting said front wheel assembly, said front fork assembly rotatably connected to the head tube and forming part of said steering means, and further wherein said rear fork assembly and] wherein said rider deck [are] is comprised of two substantially parallel tube members, the parallel tube members being [fixedly attached to said head tube, forming part of said rider deck extending between the front and rear wheel assemblies, and ascending from the rear end of said rider deck at said angle of about 145°] generally coextensive and having forward and

rearward ends, respectively, fixedly attached to the lower end of said down tube and to the lower end of said rear fork.

16. (Currently Amended) The scooter of claim 15, further wherein

said means for steering includes [a handle bar extending upwardly from said front fork assembly; and further comprising] brake means for stopping the forward movement of the scooter, said brake means comprising a brake pad, said brake pad positioned beneath said rear fork member for engagement with the rear wheel of said rear wheel assembly, and

actuating means for moving said brake pad from respective positions wherein said brake pad is engaged and disengaged with said rear wheel, said actuating means including a hand squeezable control disposed on said T-shaped handle bar, and an actuator cable, said actuator cable extending from operable relation with said brake pad, under and along the rear fork assembly, under the rider deck, up the down tube, and into operable relation with said squeezable control.

17. Canceled.

18. (Currently Amended) The scooter of claim 14 wherein the ratio of the scooter length, from axle to axle, to the wheel diameter, is about 4:1 to 5:1 ratio.

19. (Currently Amended) The scooter of claim 14 wherein the ratio of the scooter length, from axle to axle, to the wheel diameter, is about 4.8.